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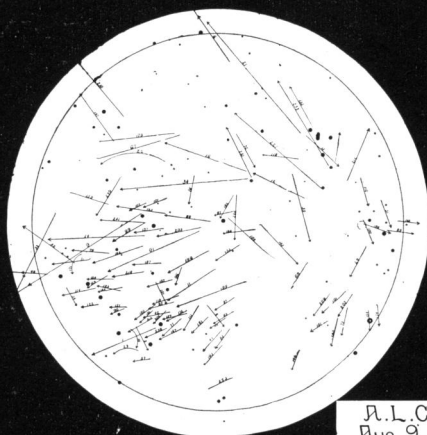
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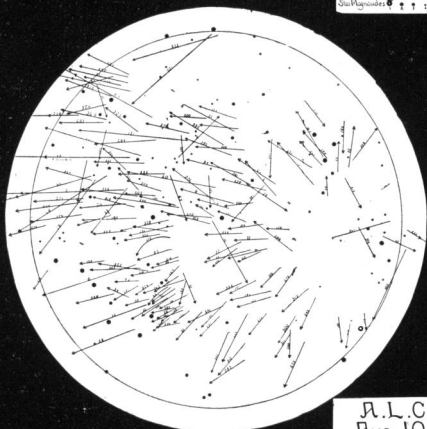
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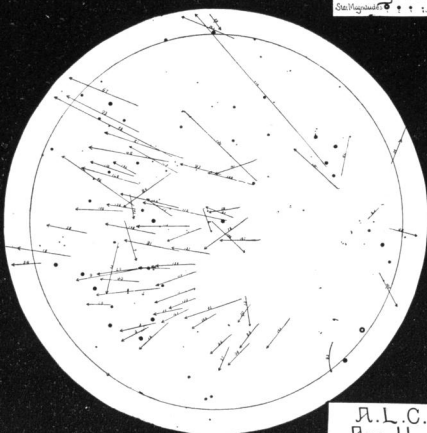
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A.L.C.
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METEOR PATHS OBSERVED AT THE LICK OBSERVATORY.

By A. L. COLTON, 1894, August 9, 10, 11.



NOTICES FROM THE LICK OBSERVATORY.

PREPARED BY MEMBERS OF THE STAFF.

AMERICAN ASTRONOMICAL JOURNALS.

We print below the list of editors of a new astrophysical journal whose chief editors are Professor HALE and Dr. KEELER. It is to be published by the University of Chicago, and will continue the astrophysical sections of *Astronomy and Astrophysics*. The latter journal is a continuation and enlargement of the *Sidereal Messenger*, founded by Professor W. W. PAYNE in 1882. America's astronomical journals have been as follows :

(1) *The Sidereal Messenger*, founded by Professor O. M. MITCHEL in July, 1848. Vol. I (Nos. 1-16) and Vol. II (Nos. 1-12) are all that were printed; or at least all that are contained in the set belonging to the LICK Observatory library.

(2) *The Astronomical Journal* was founded by Dr. B. A. GOULD in November, 1849, and it comprises fourteen volumes : Vol. I (1849-1851) to Vol. XIV (1894) now current. Dr. GOULD and Dr. CHANDLER are the present editors.

(3) *The American Journal of Science*, founded by Professor SILLIMAN in 1818, has always contained valuable articles on astronomy, though its chief use has been to represent the natural sciences, rather than astronomy. Professor H. A. NEWTON has been for many years its astronomical and mathematical editor.

(4) *Astronomical Notices* was founded by Professor F. BRUENNOW in 1858. The LICK Observatory library copy contains Nos. 1-28 (November, 1858, to December, 1861). I believe a few more numbers were printed, but not generally distributed.

(5) *The Sidereal Messenger* was founded by Professor W. W. PAYNE in 1882, and ten volumes were printed, namely Vol. I (1882) to Vol. X (1891). It was succeeded by

(6) *Astronomy and Astro-Physics*, edited by Professors PAYNE and HALE. Three volumes were printed, and they were numbered in continuation of the *Messenger*, Vol. XI (1892), Vol. XII (1893), Vol. XIII (1894). With the completion of Vol. XIII the two preceding journals come to an end.

(7) *The Publications of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific* is not strictly a journal, since it is the organ of a society. It is open, however, to all suitable papers. It is edited by a committee, and six volumes have been printed. Vol. I (1889) to Vol. VI (1894) now current.

(8) *Popular Astronomy* was founded by Professor W. W. PAYNE in 1893, and Vol. II is now current.

(9) *The Astrophysical Journal* begins its publication with Vol. I, No. 1 (ten months a year), in 1895.

The *Astronomical Journal* (2), *The American Journal of Science* (3), *The Publications A. S. P.* (7), *Popular Astronomy* (8), and *The Astrophysical Journal* (9) will undoubtedly continue to be printed. It is also understood that the journal *Science* is again to be reformed and put on a proper footing. Its astronomical editors are to be Professors NEWCOMB and E. C. PICKERING. With these journals available for general astronomy and astronomical physics and with two others (*American Mathematical Journal* and *Annals of Mathematics*—not to speak of the *Bulletin of the New York Mathematical Society*) available for contributions in the department of mathematical astronomy, it seems that Americans can have no cause to complain of lack of facilities for making their work known.*

In a general way the multiplication of scientific journals is to be deprecated; but each one of the foregoing covers a special field and is likely to do useful service. In particular it is certain that the new *Astrophysical Journal*, with its very strong staff of

* No account of astronomical journals is complete without a mention of *Astronomische Nachrichten*, founded by SCHUMACHER (1821), and continued under the editorship of PETERS and KRUEGER. It is now the organ of the *Astronomische Gesellschaft*, an international society which numbers many Americans in its membership. Under its present management, especially, it is a truly international journal, and welcomes contributions of value from astronomers of any nation.

editors, and with the support of a great University, will be a powerful incentive to science. Members of the LICK Observatory staff are on the editorial boards of three of the five astronomical publications.

E. S. H.

MOUNT HAMILTON, December 15, 1894.

THE ASTROPHYSICAL JOURNAL. An International Review of Spectroscopy and Astronomical Physics (continuing *Astronomy and Astro-Physics*).

Editors—GEORGE E. HALE, Director of the YERKES Observatory; JAMES E. KEELER, Director of the Allegheny Observatory.

Assistant Editors—J. S. AMES, Johns Hopkins University; W. W. CAMPBELL, LICK Observatory; HENRY CREW, Northwestern University; E. B. FROST, Dartmouth College; F. L. O. WADSWORTH, University of Chicago.

Associate Editors—M. A. CORNU, École Polytechnique, Paris; N. C. DUNÉR, Astronomiska Observatorium, Upsala; WILLIAM HUGGINS, Tulse Hill Observatory, London; P. TACCHINI, R. Osservatorio del Collegio Romano, Rome; H. C. VOGEL, Astrophysikalisches Observatorium, Potsdam; C. S. HASTINGS, Yale University; A. A. MICHELSON, University of Chicago; E. C. PICKERING, HARVARD College Observatory; H. A. ROWLAND, Johns Hopkins University; C. A. YOUNG, Princeton University.

Published by the University of Chicago. \$4 per year. WM. WESLEY & Son, 28 Essex Street, Strand, London, are sole foreign agents.

DISCOVERY OF A NEW GAS IN THE EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE.

In *Nature's* account of the meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, held at Oxford, in August, there is a paragraph devoted to a most interesting discovery. It seems that the eminent investigators Lord RAYLEIGH and Professor RAMSAY announced the discovery of a new substance in our atmosphere. Certain experiments made by CAVENDISH seemed to point to the presence in air of some substance other than the gases with which we are familiar. Lord RAYLEIGH and Professor RAMSAY's attention was recalled to this substance by the fact that the density of nitrogen taken from the air differs about one-half per cent. from